

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 remain herein. Claims 4, 5 and 9 have been amended hereby.


This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to eliminate multiply dependent claims from the above-identified application.

Examination of this application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

February 12, 2002
Date


Roger W. Parkhurst
Registration No. 25,177

Attachment:

Mark Up of Amended Claims

RWP/ame

Attorney Docket No. WATK:227

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.
1421 Prince Street, Suite 210
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805
Telephone: (703) 739-0220

CLAIMS

1. A non-Cu-based cast Al alloy that contains substantially no Cu, wherein
the tensile strength thereof is 305 MPa or more, the 0.2%
5 yield strength thereof is 220 MPa or more, and the elongation thereof is 10% or more.
2. The non-Cu-based cast Al alloy according to claim 1, containing 6.5 to 7.5% Si by mass, and 0.36% or less Mg by mass.
- 10 3. The non-Cu-based cast Al alloy according to claim 2, wherein said non-Cu-based cast Al alloy contains 20 to 70 ppm of Sr.
4. The non-Cu-based cast Al alloy according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein said non-Cu-based cast Al alloy is
15 a precipitation hardened alloy.
5. The non-Cu-based cast Al alloy according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein said non-Cu-based cast Al alloy is used for vehicle wheels.
- 20 6. A method for heat treatment of a cast Al alloy comprising;
subjecting a work piece of the cast Al alloy to solution treatment, and then

subjecting the work piece to aging treatment, to improve mechanical properties of the work piece, wherein at least said solution treatment is performed by rapidly raising the temperature to the solution treatment temperature within 30 minutes, and maintaining said solution treatment temperature within 3 hours to form the non-Cu-based cast Al alloy that has a tensile strength of 305 MPa or more, a 0.2% yield strength of 220 MPa or more, and an elongation of 10% or more.

10 7. A method for heat treatment of a cast Al alloy comprising; subjecting a work piece of the cast Al alloy to solution treatment, and then

subjecting the work piece to aging treatment, to improve mechanical properties of the work piece,
15 wherein at least said solution treatment is performed by allowing said work piece to be present in a fluidized bed to form the non-Cu-based cast Al alloy that has a tensile strength of 305 MPa or more, a 0.2% yield strength of 220 MPa or more, and an elongation of 10% or more.

20 8. The method of heat treatment according to claim 7, wherein said aging treatment is performed by allowing said work piece to be present in a fluidized bed.

9. The method of heat treatment according to claim 7 or 8,
25 wherein said fluidized bed is formed by the direct blowing of hot air.